



# City of Jacksonville 2016 Outstanding Veterans



## **Joseph G. Traumer** **AMVETS Post 225**

Mr. Traumer has been a member of AMVETS Post 225 for the past 15 years and has been very active in assisting veterans and their families. He has also served on numerous other Veterans organizations over the years and has devoted many, many hours to local charities, area veterans, and active duty military members.



## **Donna-Marie Crowell** **Associates of Vietnam Veterans of America** **Chapter 654**

Ms. Crowell has been a member for more than 20 years and is currently the Liaison for the Chapter. She has served as the North Carolina State Council Representative and the Region 3 Director. The welfare of Veterans is her top priority, and she has served with steadfast dedication.



## **Stan Walker** **Beirut Memorial Chapter 642** **Military Order of the Purple Heart**

Mr. Walker has been a member for five years and is currently serving as the Junior Vice Commander of the Chapter as well as the Chairman of the Scholarship Committee. He has been instrumental in piloting the Scholarship program since its inception in 2014 and has assisted with the processing of six scholarships thus far. Stan is very involved in the community as he participates in numerous other Veterans organizations as well.



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## **Grethel Humphrey** **Disabled American Veterans** **Onslow County Chapter 16**

Mr. Humphrey has been a valuable member of the Chapter for the past 15 years. He is a US Air Force Veteran and a Veteran of the Vietnam War. He has been the Chaplain, Transportation Coordinator and Service Officer. As a Transportation Network Driver, he has driven veterans to medical appointments all over North Carolina.



## **Mark F. Rogers** **Fleet Reserve Association Branch 208**

Shipmate Rogers is an extremely dedicated Shipmate who serves as the Branch's Secretary and Treasurer. Shipmate Rogers maintains the Branch's website and makes sure all tasks are handled in a timely manner, while holding the Branch together.



## **Annette Cherry** **Fleet Reserve Association Branch 208** **Auxiliary**

Ms. Cherry has been a member for 42 years and is currently serving as the Branch's Chaplain. She assists with performing funeral ceremonies and provides food for the families. She also delivers goodies to local Nursing Home facilities, is an advisor to Junior Catholic Daughters ages 6 -18, and assists with publicity for Church Women United.



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## **Nancy Lizama** **Loyal Escorts of the Green Garter**

Ms. Lizama canvased area businesses and collected items to be sent to service member's serving in harm's way. She assisted in organizing the "Smiles Project" which sent cards and letters to women Field Engagement Teams overseas. She has been enthusiastic with her support of area Veterans by serving in many events.



## **Jeffrey Andre** **Marine Corps League** **Onslow County Detachment 262**

Marine Andre joined the League in 2014 and has held three positions – Adjutant/Paymaster, Chaplain, and Assistant Chaplain. He visits the sick and housebound Veterans and has helped increase membership. He epitomizes the meaning of a hard working Marine Corps Leaguer.



## **Marian Rooney** **Marine Corps League, Auxiliary** **Onslow County Detachment 262**

Mrs. Rooney has long served on many different Veterans groups and served as an officer on most. When the Marine Corps League Unit 262 was started, she was the first to sign up and the first to volunteer to hold an office. She currently serves as the historian and keeps the scrapbooks updated.





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## **Alexander "Gunner" J. Nevgloski, Sr.** **Marine Corps League** **Swansboro Detachment 1407**

Marine Nevgloski was directly responsible for the establishment and Charter of the Swansboro Detachment. He served as the first Commandant and has worn many hats within the organization. He has been described as the driving force behind many fundraisers which benefit Marines, Chaplains, Corpsman and their families.



## **Milton Nieves** **Military Retiree Council**

Mr. Nieves' selfless contributions and professionalism as Chairman of the Council for the past three years are consistent with presenting a positive image of the Marine Corps and Naval Service. He epitomizes the unique qualities found in the men and women of the United States Marine Corps.



## **Johnnie Oliphant** **Montford Point Marine Association** **Chapter 10**

Mr. Oliphant works diligently in the community to coordinate activities and events that create camaraderie, goodwill, and "Esprit De Corps". He is involved in all Chapter fundraisers and is the go-to guy when it comes to planning events. He is a member of the building committee and is always willing to share his talents in carpentry and painting.



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## **Pamela Gaines** **Montford Point Marine Association** **Chapter 10 Ladies Auxiliary**

Ms. Gaines' resilience has greatly influenced other volunteers to step outside the traditional environment and be comfortable with new ideas for the Chapter. Although she has a full time job, Pam devotes numerous hours to the Chapter and her "can do" spirit has influenced the other members and has kept the Chapter thriving.



## **Wesley Ferguson** **NABVETS, Marine Chapter 0054**

Mr. Ferguson served in the United States Marine Corps for 26 years and retired as a Master Sergeant. He is a faithful member of the Chapter and he serves as the Chapter Recording Secretary, Hospitality Coordinator, and does anything necessary to assist the Chapter and his community.



## **Cora M. Davis** **NABVETS, Military Woman's Chapter 0088**

As the founder and Commander of the Chapter, Ms. Davis demonstrates her ability to be a leader, team player, mentor and problem solver. She unselfishly devotes her time accepting and conquering challenges placed before her. Her willingness to help others plays a vital role in assisting to better the quality of life for Veterans in the community.

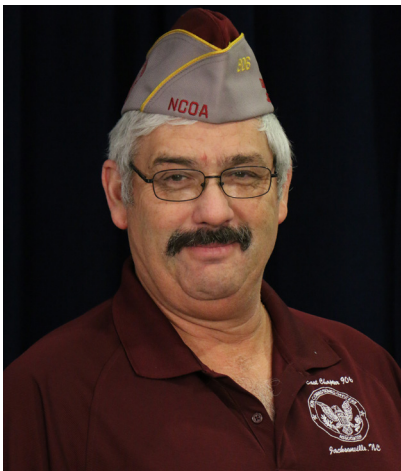


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## **Rommie L. Parker** **NABVETS, Veterans United for** **Community Service Chapter 0069**

Jr. Vice Commander Parker possesses a deep compassion to assist disabled veterans and their families. Upon completion of his training course, he will be a Volunteer Veterans Service Officer which will enable him to assist veterans and their families with completing their claims as well as assisting widows with obtaining benefits. He has been instrumental in providing services to homeless veterans.



## **Paul H. Miethker** **Non Commissioned Officers Association** **Down East Chapter 906**

Mr. Miethker has been a member of the Down East Chapter since 2007 and has served as a Trustee and is currently the Chapter Chairman. He was instrumental in organizing fundraisers and has donated over 500 hours of his personal time this year. He continues to display the ideas and principles of someone who deeply cares about his community.



## **Davis Williams** **NC Works Career Center**

Mr. Williams, Assistant Manager of NC Works Career Center, has 25 years of service with the State of NC as well as 20 years of honored service in the United States Navy. He reaches out to training institutions and human service agencies to increase their awareness and capacity to serve Veterans seeking employment and training opportunities or to resolve other basic human needs. Mr. Williams truly believes in helping people and is passionate in doing so.





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## **Jeremy Blanks** **R\*O\*C 4 Vets**

Mr. Blanks is President of Rockin' Our Country 4 Veterans. As a financial planner, he advises young service members and assists them with their VA Claims. He has over 600 hours of volunteer time with the organization and has been a staunch advocate for Veterans and the struggles they encounter upon arriving home from war.



## **Susan Teachout** **Rolling Thunder, Inc.** **Chapter NC-5**

Ms. Teachout has been a member since 2009 and has actively participated in many events, to include local bike rides, parades and merchandising for the Chapter. She presently serves as the Chapter Treasurer and has 33 years of service in the US Air Force Reserves.



## **Richard J. "Mac" McGee** **The American Legion, Burton-Cowell Post 265**

Mr. McGee served in the United States Marine Corps for 26 years, retiring in 1980 at the rank of Sergeant Major. He has 13 years of service with the American Legion Post 265 and has been instrumental in helping with numerous celebrations and community events.



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## **Samuel Gupton** **The Captain John C Carr Veteran** **Resource Center**

Mr. Gupton devotes his time to students at more than 12 area high schools, within several counties. He has often made donations out of his own pocket to help local Veterans and their families when they are in need. His dedication to Veterans and their families is both honorable and outstanding.



## **Thomas P. Dewyea** **VFW Jacksonville Post 9133**

Mr. Dewyea served in the United States Marine Corps for 24 years and has been a valuable member of the VFW for many years. His military experience has enabled him to serve the VFW Post 9133 in many capacities and his willingness to help his fellow veterans and his community knows no bounds.



## **Faye Webb** **VFW Jacksonville Post 9133** **Ladies Auxiliary**

Ms. Webb has been a Line Officer for the past 2 years. Her willingness to take action and achieve results has made her an inspiration for others to follow. Her contributions were rewarded by being inducted into the Military Order of the Cootie Auxiliary with the Honor Degree this past year. She upholds the highest traditions of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.





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## **Sarah Lucas** **VFW Jacksonville, Post 9133** **MOC Auxiliary**

Ms. Lucas has been an outstanding volunteer and President of the Post. She has boundless energy, a take-charge attitude and is an inspiration to all whose cause is served. Her dedication to the mission has helped her to uphold the highest traditions of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.



## **Walt Zabicki** **VFW New Topsail Island, Post 9983**

Mr. Zabicki served in the United States Marine Corps, retiring at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. He joined the VFW in 1994 and has served in many capacities from Junior Vice Commander to Post Commander. He is currently the Chairman of the Voice of Democracy and Patriots Path which are youth outreach programs of the VFW. He is a positive influence in the community.



## **Isaac Best, Jr. (Posthumously)** **Vietnam Veterans of America** **Jon Panarese Chapter 654**

Sergeant Isaac Best, Jr, United States Marine Corps, was a charter member of the Chapter and a very active member until his passing in August of 2016. He served in the Marine Corps for 20 years and completed 2 tours of duty in Vietnam.

He participated in all functions that his health would allow and carried the Chapter banner until he could no longer walk. When the Chapter received a Parade Trailer he would proudly ride in the Parade.

Isaac became a resident of Carolina Rivers Nursing and Rehab Center and was active there. He visited all of the Veterans in the facility daily, raised and lowered the colors, and passed out the nursing home newsletter.

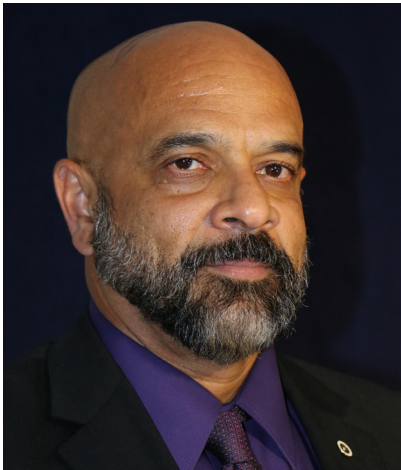


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## **June Mills** **Women Marines Association** **Tarheel Chapter, NC-1**

A former United States Marine, Ms. Mills goes above and beyond to serve active duty and veteran service members. She has been a lifetime member of the Association and a vital member. Ms. Mills has also served in the Military Widow Organization since 1980. She works tirelessly and has given hundreds of volunteer hours to coordinate, recruit and train the active duty color guard and cake escorts.



## **Luis J. Alers-Dejesus** **City of Jacksonville Veteran Liaison**

Mr. Luis Alers is the City's appointed Veteran Liaison. As the City's Veteran Liaison, he is responsible for ensuring that the City of Jacksonville is aware of what is happening in the Veteran community and keeping our veterans groups apprised of what we are working on in the City. The City of Jacksonville appreciates his steadfast support and tireless efforts in working with us to support Veterans throughout our community.